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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 28, 2000,
Provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
Filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

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|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Application Number | 10/091,699 |
| Filing Date | March 4, 2002 |
| First Named Inventor | Robert P. Mandal |
| Group Art Unit | 2814 #13 RCE |
| Examiner Name | Rao, Shrinivas H. J. Harrison |
| Attorney Docket Number | AMAT/3771.Y1/DSM/LGW KJW 6/12/03 |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.
NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 28, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 28, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50082 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted**
- I. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 Previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
 - II. ☐ Consider the arguments in the appeal brief or Reply brief previously filed on _____
 - III. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed**
- I. ☒ Amendment/Reply
 - II. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - III. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - IV. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months.** (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(f) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____**

3. Fees

- The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1074/AMAT/3771.Y1/DSM/LGW KJW**
 - i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(d)
 - ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed**
 - c. ☐ Payment by credit card**

COPY

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| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT REQUIRED | |
| Name (Print/Type) | Robert P. Mandal |
| Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 25-446 |
| Signature | [Signature] |
| Date | May 20, 2003 |

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as attached therein are being deposited on May 20, 2003 with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," mailing label No. EV349852695US addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Keith M. Tackett |
| Signature | [Signature] |
| Date | May 20, 2003 |

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450